

Proposed Increase in High School Graduation Minimum Requirements
IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Expand Options for Math Courses/Standards/Credits

- Develop and identify other courses that meet Algebra I and Geometry standards and other courses to meet science standards (Professional-Technical, Art, Music, etc.)
- Develop course list approved by SDE and PTE that meet math/science standards
- Establish State Board working group to develop “standards” rather than “seat time” approach to math and science education

Increase Opportunities to Recruit Additional Math & Science Teachers

- Establish college loans or scholarships for those becoming math/science teachers
- Create ability for college faculty to become certified teachers for 6-12 grades
- Incentivize professionals to become math and science teachers:
 - Offer increased placement on the teacher pay scale based on percentage of number of years of work in the subject area
 - Enhance alternative certification routes to teach 1-2 periods or full time
 - Offer incentives for business to allow employees release time for teaching
- Offer tuition reimbursement for current teachers to increase math/science certifications
- Change funding formula to generate additional teachers in the state

Expand Professional Development & Teacher Training for Existing Teachers

- Expand BSU pilot that enhances primary school teachers math teaching ability
- Expand U of I online teacher math certification program

Improve Post-Secondary Teacher Training

- Review and improve math and science teacher education programs
- Recruit quality college faculty to teach math and science instruction methods
- Increase university capacity to support professional development programs for teachers

Enhance Instruction, Assessment and Remediation for Students

- Primary Grades – Create “Idaho Math Initiative” based on Idaho Reading Initiative (IRI)
- Intermediate Grades – Create Instructional Strategies and Materials
- Middle School – Create Instructional Strategies, Materials and Course Options
- High School – Strategies, Materials, Course Options and End of Course Assessments

Create Additional Incentives for requiring Algebra II and Fourth Year of Math

Senior Project

- State funding to districts based on 11th grade student count
- Have State Dept. of Ed. provide best practices, guidelines and scoring rubrics

College Entrance Exam - Funding for ACT, SAT and COMPASS based on 11th grade count

Expand Advanced Learning Opportunities

- Finalize dual enrollment standards and processes for State Board review and adoption
- Increase funding for expanded IDLA course offerings

Focus on Improving Middle School

- State Board Committee to examine middle school issues including: Course requirements, Accountability, Learning Plan/Career Development, Middle School Teacher Endorsement, Post-Secondary courses in middle school methods, classroom management, content area methods and Financial Literacy

Continue Local Control - Possible options for local choice in draft proposal:

- Increased course options to meet math requirements
- 4th year of math & Algebra II – opportunity for incentive
- Flexibility on senior project
- Use of additional teachers generated through funding formula
- Increased options for hiring math and science teachers
- Increased professional development and teacher training options
- Resources for a variety of Advanced Learning Opportunities offered

Increase Parent Involvement

- Parent Advisory Group Involvement (PTA, PTO, PICAC, etc.)
- Federal GEAR UP grant activities to education parents
- Partnerships with business/community to provide career awareness & internships

